

Application No.: 10/776,674

Docket No.: ULI-002

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Claims 1-36 are pending in the application. Claims 32-36 have been withdrawn by the Examiner and claims 1 and 10 have been amended. Accordingly, after the amendments presented herein have been entered, claims 1-36 will remain pending.

Amendments to the Claims

Amendments to the claims have been made in order to more particularly point out and distinctly claim what Applicants are presently pursuing in this application. Support for these amendments can also be found throughout the specification and claims as originally filed and at least in the passage at paragraphs [0031] and [0032] of the specification.

No new matter has been added. Applicants reserve the right to pursue the claims as originally filed one or more separate applications.

Allowability of Claims

Applicants appreciate the Examiner's acknowledgement that claims 19-31 would be allowable if rewritten in independent format.

Claim Rejections- 35 U.S.C. §102

Claims 1-18 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Chen et al. (hereinafter "Chen"). Additionally, claims 1-3, 5-7, 10-15 and 17 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Long et al. (CA 2040457; hereinafter "Long"). Claims 1, 2, 5-7, 10, 11, 13-15 and 17 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Jankova et al. (hereinafter "Jankova").

Applicants respectfully point out that claims 1 and 10, as amended, recite copolymers:

...comprising a plurality of constitutional units that correspond to one or more olefin monomer species; a plurality of constitutional units that correspond to one or more protected or unprotected hydroxystyrene monomer species; and a capping species, wherein the capping species is

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located between at least one of the olefin monomer species and at least one of the protected or unprotected hydroxystyrene monomer species [and/or]
...comprising: an olefin block that comprises a plurality of constitutional units corresponding to said one or more olefin monomer species; a styrenic block that comprise a plurality of constitutional units corresponding to said one or more protected or unprotected hydroxystyrene monomer species;
and a capping species, wherein the capping species is located between the olefin block and the styrenic block.

Chen, Long and Jankova do not teach or suggest the copolymers of the present invention, at least because neither Chen, nor Long nor Jankova recite the presence of a capping species in a copolymer comprising a plurality of constitutional units that correspond to one or more olefin monomer species and a plurality of constitutional units that correspond to one or more protected or unprotected hydroxystyrene monomer species.

In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully submit that claim 1 and claims 2-31 depending therefrom are novel in view of the cited art. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1-18 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) and reconsideration of the claims is requested.

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CONCLUSION

In view of the above, Applicants believe that the pending application is in condition for allowance. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned with any questions or comments with regard to the present communication.

Please charge any underpayment and credit any overpayment to our Deposit Account No. 12-0080, under Order No. ULI-002, from which the undersigned is authorized to draw.

Dated: November 30, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

By _____

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